


Department of Early Learning

Policy Title:	10.1.11 Fire Inspection Policy		
Procedure:	See Attached		
References:	WAC 170-295-0020; 170-295-0040; 170-151-070		
Applies To:	Licensing Staff	Contact:	Provider Partnership Division
Effective Date:	4-1-10	Review Date:	4-1-12 Created on: 4/1/09
Reviewed:	LPA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SAMs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LPART <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Other Review (list)			
Director Approved:			

The Department of Early Learning (DEL) is responsible for licensing activities to ensure that standards of health and safety are present in child care facilities in accordance with Washington State law and administrative code (regulations). The term “child care facility” is used to indicate licensed family child care homes, child care centers and school-age programs.

Purpose

Clarify and standardize the agency process for requesting fire inspections from the State Fire Marshals Office (SFMO) when the need is indicated under Washington state law and administrative code (regulations). Expectations of DEL personnel are clarified in this policy and the accompanying Fire Inspection Procedure.

Policy

- I. Prior to granting a child care license to any facility classified as a “center”, that facility must have an approved fire inspection from the SFMO, or, if a school based program, have a Fire Safety Certification completed and signed by the County Fire Marshal’s Office or the local fire department within the last six months.
 - a. A child care center is a facility providing regularly scheduled care for a group of children one month of age through twelve years of age for a period less than 24 hours.
 - b. In order for a facility to be considered a “center”, which can also be located in a private residence, the facility must have a Certificate of Occupancy or other approved document that lists the occupancy type as an E (Education) or I (Institution).
- II. The SFMO cannot perform fire inspections on any facility whose occupancy type is listed as an R (residence).
- III. Occupancy types are determined by the local building authority, not the SFMO.
- IV. DEL staff must follow the attached procedure to determine when and how to request a fire inspection.

Attachments

Fire Inspection Procedure
Request for Fire Inspection Form